

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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15

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8397

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 4414

FOR OFFICE OF OVERSEAS SCHOOLS (A/OS)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCH, SW

SUBJECT: LABOR DISPUTE AT ANGLO-AMERICAN SCHOOL

REF: STOCKHOLM 4087

ALTHOUGH THE LABOR CONFLICT AT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SCHOOL HAS
FADED FROM THE PRESS WITH ONE EXCEPTION (DAGENS NYHETER, WHICH
CONTINUES TO ATTACK THE SCHOOL'S LABOR PRACTICES), SOME OF THE
TEACHERS ARE STILL THREATENING A STRIKE, AND THE ISSUE COULD
BECOME A PUBLIC ONE WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. ONE OF THE
MAJOR CHARGES AGAINST THE SCHOOL IS THAT IT HIRES TEACHERS ON
TWO-YEAR CONTRACTS FROM THE US AND UK IN ORDER NOT TO HAVE TO
PAY TAXES (WHICH BEGIN AFTER THE SECOND YEAR). THE EMBASSY'S
UNDERSTANDING IS THAT MOST OVERSEAS AMERICAN SCHOOLS CONNECTED
WITH EMBASSIES HIRE ON TWO-YEAR CONTRACTS. IF THIS IS INDEED
WORLDWIDE PRACTICE, THEN THAT MAKES THE UNION'S CASE HERE MUCH
LESS CREDIBLE. IT WOULD BE A SERVICE TO US IF YOU COULD GIVE
US A SHORT CABLE STATING THE GENERAL SITUATION RE
NORMAL HIRING PRACTICES (ESPECIALLY RE TWO-YEAR
CONTRACTS) IN AMERICAN OVERSEAS SCHOOLS.
SMITH

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